

EXTRAORDINARY HOUSING AND WELLBEING COMMITTEE

3 November 2022 at 6.00 pm

Present: Councillors Pendleton (Chair), Mrs Cooper (Vice-Chair), Mrs English, Gregory, Mrs Haywood, Hughes, Madeley, Needs, Thurston and Yeates

Councillors Cooper, Dixon, Goodheart, Oppler and Stanley were also in attendance for all or part of the meeting.

388. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received Councillor Daniells.

389. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest made.

390. COST OF LIVING REPORT

The Wellbeing and Communities Manager provided members with a detailed overview of her report, she first drew members attention to the cost-of-living issues facing many households across the district over the coming months. She explained that the basis of the recommendations before the Committee today had been formed on a partnership basis with Voluntary Action in Arun Community (VAAC) and Citizens Advice. She also advised Members that Council partners Jackie Sumner from VAAC and Luca Bodioli from Citizens Advice were also in attendance to assist with answering any questions members may have.

Following thorough discussion members then voted on the recommendations before them.

A request was made, and the committee agreed that the voting on the recommendations be undertaken separately. Having duly been proposed and seconded;

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The Committee

RESOLVED

1.2. To approve the following initiatives (with the exception of 1.2.2) totalling £180,000 to support the residents of the district during the cost-of-living pressures, subject to approval by the Policy and Finance Committee of funding (detailed in Appendix A) as the vote was split with 4 For and 4 Against the Chair used her casting vote in favour and this was approved:

The Committee

RESOLVED

To approve (1.2.1). Energy Advice and Support £40,000

The Committee

RESOLVED

**Not** to approve the (1.2.2). Energy Efficiency Home Adviser £40,000 Page 1 Agenda Item 3

The Committee

RESOLVED

To approve (1.2.3.) Funding support for local food banks £20,000

The Committee

RESOLVED

To approve (1.2.4.) Small grants to VCS organisations £25,000

The Committee

RESOLVED

To approve (1.2.5.) Cost of living co-ordinator post £55,000

In turning to the recommendation to be presented to the Policy and Finance Committee the Chair proposed an amendment to read as follows with **additions shown in bold**

“1.3. that they approve a virement of £180,000 to fund the cost-of-living crisis initiatives identified in recommendation 1.2 from additional interest on balances in 2022/23. **If there are any monies outstanding it comes back to the Housing & Wellbeing Committee for decision on spending**”

This amendment was duly seconded and therefore

The Committee

#### RECOMMENDED TO THE POLICY & FINANCE COMMITTEE

That they approve (1.3) a virement of £180,000 to fund the cost-of-living crisis initiatives identified in recommendation 1.2 from additional interest on balances in 2022/23. If there are any monies outstanding it comes back to the Housing & Wellbeing Committee for decision on spending.

(The meeting concluded at 7.23 pm)